review the work and progress of the University since its inception. The Fact Finding Committee has since submitted its report. In order to finalise at time-bound action plan to give effect to the recommendations made by the Committee, discussions have been held with the officers of the University Grants Commission and the University on 27th and 28th October, 2006.

Misuse of funds under SSA and Mid-day meal scheme

†413. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the amount allocated by Government to the State under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and Mid-day meal is being misused at a large scale;

(b) if so, whether Government would take any step to check the misuse of the amount allocated under the said schemes; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) In the light of the report on the Performance Audit of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), submitted by the Comptroller & Auditor General of India in August 2006, and the examination of the points raised therein, by the Government of India and State/UT SSA programmes, an amount of about Rs. 53 crores can be classified as expenditure not covered under the SSA guidelines. Under mid-day meal scheme, no misuse of funds has been reported.

(b) and (c) The States/UTs have already been strictly instructed to avoid recurrence of such instances in future. Government of India is monitoring the use of SSA funds through annual State/UT audits, independent concurrent financial reviews and field monitoring through 41 social science institutions.

Colleges under UGC purview

414. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether the University Grants Commission has suggested that around 8500 unaffiliated colleges be brought under the purview of the UGC to improve the standard of college education;

(b) whether it is a fact that only 20 per cent of the colleges in the country are under accreditation for assessment of quality education;

(c) whether there is considerable inter-State variation in the level of higher education and if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) how many universities and colleges, the UGC has so far identified to have potential for excellence?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The University Grants Commission (UGC) has requested all the Universities to send proposals for getting their colleges declared fit by UGC to receive Central assistance. Out of about 18000 colleges in the country only 6212 colleges have so far been recognized by the Commission under the provision of the University Grants Commission Act, 1956. The National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) established by UGC has so far assessed 2956 colleges.

(c) The Universities and Colleges vary in regard to the availability of physical and academic infrastructure.

(d) The UGC has so far selected 9 universities under its Scheme of Universities with Potential for Excellence to promote quality and excellence, and has identified 12 more universities as Centres with Potential for Excellence in a particular area. 97 colleges have been selected under the Scheme of Colleges with Potential for Excellence to achieve excellence mainly in teaching activities and initiate research culture in such colleges.

Ordinance to recognize B.Ed. colleges

†415. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have issued an ordinance for including non-recognized B.Ed. colleges of West Bengal in the category of recognized colleges;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.